



# Saguaro Weekly Update



*"Where neighbors help neighbors build community."*

**Councilmember Steve Frate, Glendale Arizona**

**January 2, 2009**

*Happy New Year 2009!*

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

The City of Glendale continues to experience unprecedented growth even in these challenging economic times. Westgate has added more shops and restaurants, and the spring training facility is almost finished. USA Basketball announced they will be locating their offices and training facility near the Loop 101 and Glendale, and additional development is planned for areas near the stadium. We are currently working on the "Glendale Centerline" project, which includes an intensive visioning and planning process that will result in the redevelopment and revitalization of the Glendale Avenue corridor. We were also just informed that the space that Mervyn's occupied at Arrowhead Towne Center has already been leased, with plans for the new store, Forever 21, to open next year. This year we hosted the Super Bowl and we were very proud to have the eyes of the world upon us, the Arizona Cardinals are in the playoffs, and the Fiesta Bowl is just around the corner.

It has been my pleasure to have served you in 2008, and I look forward to serving you in the coming year. I hope you have a healthy, happy, and prosperous 2009.

— Steve Frate

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**67th Avenue Update.** Crews are working to complete improvements to 67th Avenue. For the most current update on the project [click here](#).

**2009 State of the Business Community Address.** Business owners and residents are invited to attend Mayor Elaine Scruggs' 2009 State of the Business Community Address at 11:30 a.m., Thursday, Jan. 8, 2009 at the Glendale Civic Center, 5750 W. Glenn Drive.

Also speaking at the luncheon will be Arizona Cardinals President Michael Bidwill. The football executive is the new chairman of the Greater Phoenix Economic Council, which works to attract quality businesses to the region.

The theme of the mayor's speech will be "Strong Cities Make A Strong State." Tickets are \$60 for individuals and \$600 for a corporate table of 10. For ticket information, call the Glendale Chamber of Commerce at (623) 937-4754.

**City Council Installation Ceremony - January 13, 2009.** The Glendale City Council cordially invites you to attend the Installation Ceremony for Mayor Elaine M. Scruggs, Councilmember Joyce Clark, Councilmember Steve Frate and Councilmember Phil Lieberman at 7 p.m., on Tuesday, January 13, 2009 in the City Council Chambers, 5850 W. Glendale Ave. [Click here to RSVP](#).

**Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Unity Day Luncheon.** As one of the state's premier celebrations of Dr. King's life and the ideals his name so symbolically represents, the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Unity Day Luncheon demonstrates Glendale's commitment to create a society that is more just, peaceful and understanding.

The public is invited to attend the event from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Friday, Jan. 16, 2009 at the Glendale Civic Center, located at 5750 W. Glenn Drive.

Tickets can be purchased in person at the Glendale Visitor Center, located at 5800 W. Glenn Drive, suite 140. The Visitor Center is open Monday through Saturday, exclusive of city holidays. Tickets are \$40 per person. For more information, [click here](#) or call the Visitor Center at (623) 930-4500.

# 2008 in Review

Below are just a few of the many Glendale news stories from 2008.

Check [www.glendaleaz.com](http://www.glendaleaz.com) often to keep up with the latest city of Glendale news, programs and events.

## January

**Fiesta Bowl.** Glendale and the Tostitos Fiesta Bowl welcomed the [University of Oklahoma](#) and [West Virginia University](#) to the 2008 [Fiesta Bowl](#) on January 2.

**Best in Class.** The [Glendale Police Department's](#) 2005 Chevrolet D.A.R.E. pick-up won 1st place at the 39th annual World Of Wheels car show held at the University Of Phoenix Stadium.

## February

**Super Bowl.** On February 3, a well prepared city of Glendale welcomed the New York Giants and New England Patriots to the city for [Super Bowl](#) XLII.

**Glendale Civic Center.** The [Glendale Civic Center](#) was selected as the No. 2 meeting/convention location for facilities 49,999 square feet or less in Ranking Arizona's "The Best of Arizona Business 2008."

## March

**Park & Ride Grand Opening.** The Glendale Park & Ride opened on March 25. The facility is a "green" design and the first environmentally friendly structure of its kind.

**Environmental Report Card.** The city of Glendale earned straight A's from [Valley Forward](#) for the Valley's 2008 Environmental Report Card.

## April

**Public Works Project of the Year.** The [Glendale Engineering Department](#) received the Public Works Project of the Year in the Historical Restoration/Preservation (\$10-100 million) category by the Arizona Chapter of APWA for its work on the Downtown Glendale Pedestrian Enhancement Project.

## May

**Glendale Centerline Project.** The Glendale City Council kicked off the redevelopment of the Glendale Avenue Corridor with discovery trips to successful downtown areas.

**Fire Station 151.** A groundbreaking ceremony was held on Wednesday, May 28 for the new location of Fire Station 151. This facility will replace Glendale's oldest, active station, and relocate it to 6851 N. 52nd Avenue, just south of Glendale Avenue.

## June

**Historic Preservation Recognition.** In recognition of Glendale's historic focus, the city's Planning Department was presented with the [Governor's Heritage Preservation Honor Award](#) at the State Historic Preservation Conference.

**From the Heart.** Eighteen non-profit agencies that provide services to Glendale's most vulnerable children, families and elderly residents received financial grants in June from money donated by Glendale utility customers and businesses.

**New City Court Complex.** The first step in the city's efforts to revitalize the Glendale Avenue Corridor began with construction of [Glendale's new court complex](#) 4701 W. Glendale Ave.

## July

**2008-09 Budget.** The Glendale City Council unanimously approved the city's [2008-09 budget](#) on June 24, 2008.

**Spark Awards.** Glendale recognized neighborhood leaders and businesses that have contributed to their community and improved the quality of the city's neighborhoods with [Spark Awards](#).

## August

**Glendale's Got Game.** Many Glendale Departments prepare for the 2008 Cardinal Football season, while citizens and visitors kept informed with [Glendale's Got Game website](#).

## September

**Glendale's Green House.** Habitat for Humanity Central Arizona built its first Platinum Level Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certified home in Glendale and the entire state of Arizona.

**ROAM.** In September, the city of Glendale became the first city in the United States to have its entire street lighting system remotely and automatically monitored. The new system, called ROAM, will electronically notify the Glendale Transportation Department of a specific street light outage as soon as an outage occurs.

**Glendale Outdoor Environmental Classroom.** The Glendale Main Library's Outdoor Environmental Classroom, a unique combination of the environment and education, was recognized at the Valley Forward Association's 28th Annual Environmental Excellence Award Ceremony with the "Crescordia Award" for Art in Public Places.

## October

**26th Annual Fire Prevention Day & Parade.** The Glendale Fire Department held their [26<sup>th</sup> Annual Fire Prevention Parade](#) in downtown.

**Best of West Awards.** Several projects and businesses across the city of Glendale earned the title "Best of the West" at the 16th Annual Best of the West Awards, presented by [Westmarc](#). Glendale's X-Court, Glendale's 25th Anniversary Jazz & Blues Festival, Westgate City Center, Arrowhead Towne Center and Banner Thunderbird Children's Center neonatal expansion were honored.

**Emmy Award.** Glendale 11 earned an [Emmy Award](#) in the Politics/Government Program category for "Glendale's Got Game," a compilation of three Glendale 11 shows that featured the city's preparations for Super Bowl XLII.

## November

**USA Basketball.** On November 18, city officials announced plans to bring [USA Basketball](#) to the city's Sports and Entertainment District during a press conference held at the Glendale Media Center.

**Glendale Glitters.** Three Glendale Olympians were the city's special guests on Friday, Nov. 28, as Mayor Scruggs and the City Council flipped the switch for the 2008 Glendale Glitters Spectacular.

## December

**Spring Training Facility.** Construction of the Dodgers and White Sox new Spring Training home nears completion.

**Contact Councilmember Frate**

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